



Student Clerkship Program at the National Fish Health Research Laboratory

The National Fish Health Laboratory (NFHRL) in Leetown, WV is a research facility of the U.S. Geological Survey specializing in health and disease related issues affecting aquatic animal resources in the United States and beyond. The NFHRL offers a clerkship/externship program to 3rd year and above veterinary students or graduate students with interests in aquatic animal medicine. The clerkship is designed to be 3 weeks in length, but there is ample opportunity to alter the duration and content based on the precise interests and experience level of the student. Students will have the opportunity to receive hands-on training in these various disciplines pertaining to the NFHRL's aquatic animal research program: general pathology, histopathology, bacteriology, virology, parasitology, immunology, and molecular biology. Under the direction of the veterinary medical officer and a team of principal investigators, students will also have the opportunity to participate in ongoing research projects in field or laboratory settings, and/or to develop their own independent research project to be conducted at the laboratory. At the conclusion of the clerkship, students will be expected to present a brief lunchtime seminar focusing on their research experience or another topic pertinent to aquatic animal medicine. The NFHRL is located in the northern Shenandoah Valley between Martinsburg and Charles Town, WV. On-site housing is oftentimes available for student use. For further information, please contact Dr. Christine Densmore at the NFHRL.

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